

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A An image correction~~ method comprising:
obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, ~~and~~ extracting only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal, and storing the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in a memory; and
obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, ~~and~~ extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, ~~and~~ setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one [[1.]], and storing the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal in the same or a different memory;
wherein the extraction and storage of the last bits of the first correction digital signal and the first bits of the second correction digital signal reduces a memory requirement for scanning the correction documents.
2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 33 [[1]], wherein the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal are stored in a memory.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.
4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 33 [[1]], wherein the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal are stored in a memory.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.
6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 33 [[1]], wherein the first correction document comprises a black correction document.
7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 33 [[1]], wherein the second correction document comprises a white correction document.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 33 ~~[[1]]~~, further comprising ~~wherein the step of black correction comprises:~~
scanning the first correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a first correction optical signal;
using an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and
~~using an analog/digital converter to convert~~ converting the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.
9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.
10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising ~~wherein the step of white correction comprises:~~
scanning the second correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a second correction optical signal;
using the ~~[[an]]~~ image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal;
and
~~using an analog/digital converter to convert~~ converting the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.
11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.
12. (Currently amended) An ~~image correction~~ apparatus comprising:
means for obtaining a first correction digital signal, said means for obtaining a first correction digital signal ~~being~~ configured to scan a first correction document during black correction, and ~~being configured~~ to extract only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; and
means for obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, said means for obtaining a second correction digital signal ~~being~~ configured to extract only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal; and
~~means for setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of 1.~~

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:
means for setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one;
and means for storing the extracted bits after the most significant bit is set ~~said means~~
~~for obtaining a first correction digital signal being configured to store the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in a memory.~~
14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the extracted bits are stored in memory ~~comprises~~ a random access memory.
15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, ~~said means for obtaining a second correction digital signal being configured to store~~ further comprising means for storing the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal in a memory.
16. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.
17. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first correction document comprises a black correction document.
18. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the second correction document comprises a white correction document.
19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising ~~wherein said means for obtaining a first correction digital signal comprises:~~
~~means for scanning the first correction document to obtain the a first correction optical signal;~~
means for obtaining an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and
means for converting an analog/digital converter to convert the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.
20. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 12 [[19]], further comprising ~~wherein said means for obtaining a second correction digital signal comprises:~~

means for scanning the second correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a second correction optical signal;

means for obtaining an image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and

means for converting an analog/digital converter to convert the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal ~~signature~~.

22. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~An article, comprising: a~~ A storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed, are further operable to if executed, result in:

obtain obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, and extract extracting only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; and

obtain obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, and extract extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, and set setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one [[1]].

24. (Currently Amended) The storage medium article of claim 23 wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are further operable to if executed, result in:

store storing the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in random access memory.

25. (Currently Amended) The storage medium article of claim 23 wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are further operable to if executed, result in:

store storing the extracted bits of the second correction digital signal in [[a]] random access memory.

26. (Currently Amended) The storage medium article of claim 23 wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are further operable to ~~wherein the black correction comprises:~~

~~scan~~ scanning the first correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a first correction optical signal;

~~use~~ using an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and

~~use~~ using an analog/digital converter to convert the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.

27. (Currently Amended) The storage medium article of claim 26 wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are further operable to ~~wherein the white correction comprises:~~

~~scan~~ scanning the second correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a second correction optical signal;

~~use the~~ using an image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and

~~use the~~ using an analog/digital converter to convert the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

28. (Currently Amended) An image made by a method comprising:

obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, and extracting only a plurality of the last bits of the first correction digital signal; and

obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, ~~and~~ extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, and setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one ~~[[1]]~~.

29. (Currently amended) The image of claim 28 made by a method further comprising: storing the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in ~~[[a]]~~ random access memory.

30. (Currently amended) The image of claim 28 made by a method further comprising:

storing the extracted last bits of the second correction digital signal in [[a]] random access memory.

31. (Currently Amended) The image of claim 28 wherein the black correction comprises: scanning the first correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a first correction optical signal; using an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and using an analog/digital converter to convert the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.

32. (Currently Amended) The image of claim 31 wherein the white correction comprises: scanning the second correction document to obtain ~~the~~ a second correction optical signal; using the [[an]] image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and using the [[an]] analog/digital converter to convert the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

33. (New) A method comprising: obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, extracting only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; and obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one.